

From: Norman Finkelstein <[REDACTED]>
To: trivers <[REDACTED]>
Cc: [REDACTED], jeevacation@gmail.com, [REDACTED], Natasha Trivers
<[REDACTED]>, [REDACTED], [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Your statement to The Guardian
Date: Tue, 03 Feb 2015 23:45:09 +0000

Sworn testimony of Jane Doe #3 ([REDACTED]):

24. Harvard law professor Alan Dershowitz was around Epstein frequently. Dershowitz was so comfortable with the sex that was going on that he would even come and chat with Epstein while I was giving oral sex to Epstein.

My guess is, if Epstein put your daughter at age 15 in such a position, you wouldn't publicly describe him as a "friend" and person of "integrity." In fact, I would hope that you'd promptly throttle both Epstein and Dershowitz.

On Tue, Feb 3, 2015 at 5:12 PM, <[REDACTED]> wrote:
flooding in

damn, i thought a "heinous crime" was the US invasion of Iraq 2003

or at least murder, rape and pillage?

—
Dear Professor Trivers:

I was shocked to read your statement yesterday in The Guardian

<http://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2015/feb/01/jeffrey-epstein-charities-refuse-money-financier-sex-case>
<<http://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2015/feb/01/jeffrey-epstein-charities-refuse-money-financier-sex-case%20>>

. The paper reports:

At least two grant recipients in academia are standing by Epstein, saying he remains

a friend: Krauss and Robert Trivers, a Rutgers University biologist.

Trivers said

Epstein is a person of integrity who should be given credit for serving time in

prison and for settling civil lawsuits brought by women who said they were abused.

"Did he get an easy deal? Did he buy himself a light sentence? Well, yes, probably,

compared to what you or I would get, but he did get locked up," Trivers said. He

said he got about \$40,000 from Epstein to study the relationship between knee symmetry and sprinting ability.

Trivers also said he believes girls mature earlier than in the past. "By the time

they're 14 or 15, they're like grown women were 60 years ago, so I don't see these acts as so heinous," he said.
Is this claim regarding teenage girls your scientific opinion? If so, I'd like to see the research supporting your idea that a girl of 14 is as mature emotionally and psychologically as an adult woman in the 1950s. The real problem with the statement, though, is the way in which it places blame for child abuse on the child and excuses the criminal actions of an adult sexual predator, a man who was a serial rapist of children.

Your claim about 14- and 15-year-olds is clearly wrong in the legal sense; but it is also wrong, and dangerous, as a claim about maturity. Any parent of a teenager can tell you that teens are not like adults. They have not yet internalized a sense of authority. They still depend largely on the judgment and guidance of adults who praised them for their obedience more than for their independence of mind. This means that they are too easily impressed by and manipulated by adults, especially those whom they view as important and powerful. Teenage girls, no matter how capable of sexual activity they may be, are not yet morally responsible persons. They are a vulnerable class of people that the law rightly protects from potential predators and abusers.

I believe that your affection for Jeffrey Epstein has led you to make light of his heinous crimes. Have you read the report of the original police investigation on him? If not, I urge you to read it before you make further public statements in defense of his reputation. The powerful consistency of the evidence in the Probable

Cause Affidavit should give you pause:

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/253167806/Epstein-Probable-Cause-Affidavit#scribd>

The police record will reveal to you that Mr. Epstein is not a "person of integrity." Appearances can be deceiving!

I believe that your statement to the press was harmful. In a news report, once you are identified as a scientist from a prestigious university, people assume that you are speaking with the authority of a scientist and the backing of your institution and not simply as a private citizen. You represent Rutgers University, and also, by extension, academia. People (for instance, the parents of our students)

are very
sensitive to these issues. As a professor, I also am sensitive to this
issue. Your
statement, with its suggestion that the girl victims are partly to blame
for the
abuse they received at the hands of your friend, reflects badly on all of
us. I hope
you will issue a public apology and retraction.

Yours sincerely,
Professor Joseph R. Chaney
Director, Master of Liberal Studies Program
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Norman Finkelstein

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